

**FRESNO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
(FRESNO COUNTY)**

Construction continues to lead year-over gains

The unemployment rate in Fresno County was 8.5 percent in December 2005, down from a revised 8.9 percent in November 2005, and below the year-ago estimate of 10.1 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 4.8 percent for California and 4.6 percent for the nation during the same period.

Between November and December 2005, total wage and salary employment increased by 800 (up 0.2 percent) to total 327,800 jobs. Nonfarm employment dipped by 200 jobs, while farm employment added 1,000 jobs.

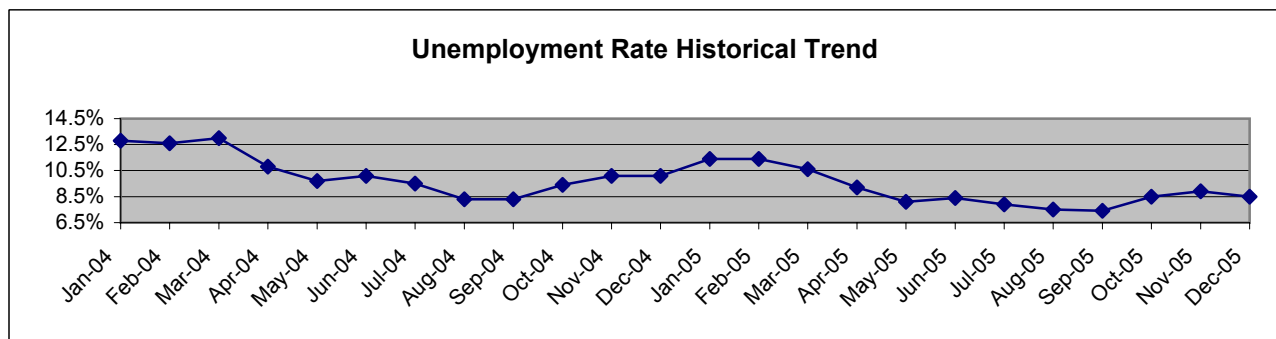
- The additional jobs in farm employment (up 1,000 jobs) are normal for December due to the citrus harvest and dormant seasonal activities in grape vineyards, nut orchards and tree fruit orchards.
- Trade, transportation and utilities added 100 jobs, all in clothing and clothing accessories stores.
- Construction has remained constant at 23,100 jobs for the sixth consecutive month.
- Government edged down by 200 jobs, all in the federal government sector. The decline in government is normal for the month of December.

Between December 2004 and December 2005, total wage and salary employment grew by 4,200 jobs, or 1.3 percent. Nonfarm employment increased by 3,600 jobs (up 1.3 percent), and farm employment increased by 600 jobs (up 1.7 percent).

- In December 2005, construction posted a gain of 2,600 jobs. General and heavy construction grew by 1,400 jobs, and specialty trade contractors added 1,200 jobs. Construction continues to report greater job gains than any other major industry sector.
- Government expanded by 1,000 jobs to reach 67,100. State government payrolls added 600 and local government added 400.
- Leisure and hospitality rose by 400 jobs, primarily in arts, entertainment and recreation. This sector includes performing arts, spectator sports, and amusement parks.
- Manufacturing declined by 400 jobs. The gain of 800 jobs in durable goods was offset by a decrease of 1,200 jobs in nondurable goods.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Industry	Nov-2005	Dec-2005	Change		Dec-2004	Dec-2005	Change
Total jobs	327,000	327,800	800		323,600	327,800	4,200
Farm Jobs	35,200	36,200	1,000		35,600	36,200	600
Nonfarm Jobs	291,800	291,600	(200)		288,000	291,600	3,600
Natural Resources and Mining	200	200	0		200	200	0
Construction	23,100	23,100	0		20,500	23,100	2,600
Manufacturing	26,800	26,800	0		27,200	26,800	(400)
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	57,700	57,800	100		58,100	57,800	(300)
Information	4,600	4,600	0		4,500	4,600	100
Financial Activities	13,800	13,800	0		13,900	13,800	(100)
Professional and Business Services	27,500	27,400	(100)		27,400	27,400	0
Educational and Health Services	35,900	35,900	0		35,600	35,900	300
Leisure and Hospitality	24,100	24,100	0		23,700	24,100	400
Other Services	10,800	10,800	0		10,800	10,800	0
Government	67,300	67,100	(200)		66,100	67,100	1,000

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality

Data may not add due to rounding

Additional data are available on-line at www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov

Fresno MSA
Fresno County
Industry Employment & Labor Force
March 2004 Benchmark

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonality

	Dec 04	Oct 05	Nov 05 Revised	Dec 05 Prelim.	Percent Change Month Year	
Civilian Labor Force (1)	401,400	408,400	402,300	403,700	0.3%	0.6%
Civilian Employment	360,800	373,700	366,700	369,600	0.8%	2.4%
Civilian Unemployment	40,600	34,700	35,700	34,100	-4.5%	-16.0%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	10.1%	8.5%	8.9%	8.5%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	5.7%	5.0%	5.1%	4.8%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	5.1%	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%		

Total, All Industries (2)	323,600	333,200	327,000	327,800	0.2%	1.3%
Total Farm	35,600	41,800	35,200	36,200	2.8%	1.7%
Total Nonfarm	288,000	291,400	291,800	291,600	-0.1%	1.3%
Total Private	221,900	224,300	224,500	224,500	0.0%	1.2%
Goods Producing	47,900	51,000	50,100	50,100	0.0%	4.6%
Natural Resources and Mining	200	200	200	200	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	20,500	23,100	23,100	23,100	0.0%	12.7%
Building, Develop & Gen Cont & Hvy Const	6,900	8,300	8,300	8,300	0.0%	20.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	13,600	14,800	14,800	14,800	0.0%	8.8%
Manufacturing	27,200	27,700	26,800	26,800	0.0%	-1.5%
Durable Goods	10,500	11,300	11,400	11,300	-0.9%	7.6%
Nondurable Goods	16,700	16,400	15,400	15,500	0.6%	-7.2%
Food Manufacturing	12,600	12,200	11,200	11,300	0.9%	-10.3%
Residual-Beverage and Tobacco Product Mfg	4,100	4,200	4,200	4,200	0.0%	2.4%
Service Providing	240,100	240,400	241,700	241,500	-0.1%	0.6%
Private Service Producing	174,000	173,300	174,400	174,400	0.0%	0.2%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	58,100	56,900	57,700	57,800	0.2%	-0.5%
Wholesale Trade	12,500	12,400	12,400	12,400	0.0%	-0.8%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	5,700	5,600	5,600	5,600	0.0%	-1.8%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	0.0%	0.0%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Trade	35,800	34,400	35,300	35,400	0.3%	-1.1%
Food and Beverage Stores	6,200	6,200	6,200	6,200	0.0%	0.0%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,000	3.4%	7.1%
General Merchandise Stores	7,800	6,800	7,600	7,600	0.0%	-2.6%
Residual-Miscellaneous Store Retailers	19,000	18,600	18,600	18,600	0.0%	-2.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	9,800	10,100	10,000	10,000	0.0%	2.0%
Transportation and Warehousing	8,300	8,500	8,400	8,400	0.0%	1.2%
Utilities	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	6.7%
Information	4,500	4,500	4,600	4,600	0.0%	2.2%
Financial Activities	13,900	13,700	13,800	13,800	0.0%	-0.7%
Finance and Insurance	9,500	9,300	9,400	9,400	0.0%	-1.1%
Insurance Carriers and Related	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,100	0.0%	0.0%
Residual-Credit Intermediation and Related Act	5,400	5,200	5,300	5,300	0.0%	-1.9%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	4,400	4,400	4,400	4,400	0.0%	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	27,400	27,400	27,500	27,400	-0.4%	0.0%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9,500	9,400	9,400	9,400	0.0%	-1.1%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,800	3,700	3,700	3,700	0.0%	-2.6%
Administrative and Support and Waste Services	14,100	14,300	14,400	14,300	-0.7%	1.4%
Administrative and Support Services	13,500	13,700	13,800	13,700	-0.7%	1.5%
Employment Services	5,600	5,800	5,900	5,900	0.0%	5.4%
Residual-Other Support Services	7,900	7,900	7,900	7,800	-1.3%	-1.3%
Waste Management and Remediation Services	600	600	600	600	0.0%	0.0%
Educational and Health Services	35,600	35,800	35,900	35,900	0.0%	0.8%
Educational Services	3,500	3,400	3,500	3,500	0.0%	0.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	32,100	32,400	32,400	32,400	0.0%	0.9%
Health Care	28,100	28,400	28,400	28,400	0.0%	1.1%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	10,400	10,700	10,700	10,700	0.0%	2.9%
Hospitals	11,300	11,400	11,400	11,400	0.0%	0.9%

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonality

	Dec 04	Oct 05	Nov 05 Revised	Dec 05 Prelim.	Percent Change Month Year	
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	6,400	6,300	6,300	6,300	0.0%	-1.6%
Social Assistance	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	0.0%	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	23,700	24,300	24,100	24,100	0.0%	1.7%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,400	2,800	2,800	2,800	0.0%	16.7%
Accommodation and Food Service	21,300	21,500	21,300	21,300	0.0%	0.0%
Accommodation	1,700	1,800	1,700	1,700	0.0%	0.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	19,600	19,700	19,600	19,600	0.0%	0.0%
Full-Service Restaurants	8,500	8,700	8,700	8,700	0.0%	2.4%
Limited-Service Eating Places	10,000	9,900	9,900	10,000	1.0%	0.0%
Residual-Special Food Services	1,100	1,100	1,000	900	-10.0%	-18.2%
Other Services	10,800	10,700	10,800	10,800	0.0%	0.0%
Government	66,100	67,100	67,300	67,100	-0.3%	1.5%
Federal Government	9,500	9,400	9,700	9,500	-2.1%	0.0%
State and Local Government	56,600	57,700	57,600	57,600	0.0%	1.8%
State Government	9,400	9,800	10,000	10,000	0.0%	6.4%
State Government Education	3,400	3,300	3,400	3,400	0.0%	0.0%
Other State Government	6,000	6,500	6,600	6,600	0.0%	10.0%
Local Government	47,200	47,900	47,600	47,600	0.0%	0.8%
Local Government Education	30,300	29,800	30,300	30,300	0.0%	0.0%
County	8,100	9,000	8,200	8,200	0.0%	1.2%
City	5,500	5,700	5,700	5,700	0.0%	3.6%
Other Local Government	3,300	3,400	3,400	3,400	0.0%	3.0%

Note 1: Civilian labor force data are by place of residence; include self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike.

Note 2: Industry employment is by place of work; excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike.

These data are produced by the Labor Market Information Division of the California State Employment Development Department (EDD). Questions should be directed to: Nannette Potter-559/230-4077 or Sheila Urdesich (559/230-4142)

These data, as well as other labor market data, are available via the Internet at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>. If you need assistance, please call (916) 262-2162.

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